GOODMAN COUNTRY:

To his Worſhip

The City of *LONDON.*

By Roy. Le hange.
A silly peice, abusing ye Citty.

SIR,

WE have of late been in a woundy pudder and tattle about your Election of *Sheriffs*. The *King*, we thank him, chuſes ours to our great content and quiet; but it ſeems it's your *right* and *property* to chuſe yours; and we commend you for being ſo ſtout and ſtickling to maintain your *Priviledges* : Nor was it a little joy to us to hear how ſucceſsful you were in carrying the *Cauſe*, and that your *Battel* and *Victory* was attended with ſuch *Houting* and *Shouting*, and *flouriſhing* of *Handkerchiefs*, that the Gyants in Yeild-Hall never ſaw the like in all their born.

The Reaſon why the Country applauds the Cities Choice.

We know not well what men you have choſen, nor do we much care what they *are*, or what they have *been*, or what they will *be*; or what Party they are *of*, as long as they have money enough to qualifie them for the *Office*: But this we hope, *they are* men *for* the *purpoſe, and will ſtand* ſtiffly up to preſerve our Kings *Life*, Property, and Proteſtant Religion. And then bleſs *me*, and my *Dun Cow*, we care not a Fig for all the Papiſts in the World.

It is no matter who the City chooſes for Sheriffs, ſo they are Proteſtants and wealthy.

For as ſilly a *Clown* as *I* am, I love my *Liberty* and my *Proteſtant Religion* ; and would the *Pope* and his Agents had been Poxt and bepiſt when they ſeduced any of our *Volk* to *Popery:* And were I *Heir* to a Crown, the old Canting Rogue the *Pope* ſhould be *hang'd* before he ſhould *wheedle* me out of it, with the promiſe of giving me a *Heavenly* one for it, becauſe I know he hath nothing to do there. And if I were the *Son* of a *King* that was murthered by his *Counſel* and *Contrivance*, I would ſee him at the Devil, before he ſhould bubble me into his Religion, for then I muſt believe that his killing my *Father* was no murder, and that they *died* wrongfully who were *Executed* for having a hand in his *Death*. For our *Parſon* hath often told us, that the Pope and his Jeſuits hold it lawful to poyſon or ſtab, or make away Kings, that are Hereticks or Excommunicate. *The Duce take ſuch a Religion*, and a *Bots* on all *Rebels* and *Traytors*.

It is very irrational to change Proteſtantiſm for Popery.

Now hang me like a Dog if I am not as great a lover of my Proteſtant Religion as any of you all. For my *Grand-father*, and my *Father* which begot me, and bred me up in it, were very good *Scholards*, and could write and read, and they always told me, that *I could not have learnt a better* Religion in the World, for it taught me to be a true Chriſtian, a good Man, and a *Loyal Subject* to the King, *God bleſs him.* Beſides, I am poſſeſt of your or vive Cloſes, which formerly belonged to an Abby, and before I will loſe my Lands, I will cut the Popes throat. *Zookes*, I will never change my Religion for that, which will kill my *King*, and rob me of my *Eſtate*.

Eſpecially if a man have been bred up in the Proteſtant Religion, and is heir to a good Eſtate

The imprudence of the City in calling the Church of *England* men Proteſtants in Maſquerade. Or ſaying that they are Popiſhly Affected.

But now Mr. *City* I muſt tell your Worſhip, that ſome *Gentry-Volk* of your Town tell us ſtrange Stories of you, how that you make a woundy noiſe and buzzle in glorying of your late gained *Victory*, and that you Proudly and Inſolently call all the *Proteſtants* that go to *Church*, by the names of *Church-Papiſts*, and *Popiſhly affected*.

Zump! what do you mean to do? Are you for running down the Popiſh Plot, and will you now diſoblige and loſe the beſt *friends* that ever you had, or will have, for carrying on ſuch a Cauſe. Did ever men *Write* and *ſpeak*, *Preach* and *Diſpute* againſt the Whore of *Babilon* at that Rate, and with ſuch Succeſs as the *Parſons* of our Country do? And will you call theſe men *Church-Papiſts*?

I would a *Bliſter* had been on that worſhipful *Godfathers* tongue, that gave the name of Proteſtants in *Maſquerade* to our honeſt Church of *England* men. I am ſure whatever the word ſignifies, he meant no good by it: And you cannot imagine how much we *ſtomach* the Word, ſince we now underſtand it; for ſay the Learned, the firſt Syllable of *Maſquerade* is *Maſs*, and *Maſs* is a Popiſh word, *Ergo*, *Maſquerade Proteſtant* is a *Popiſh Proteſtant*: a moſt ridiculous nonſenſical Invention, to render odious all thoſe that worſhip God in their Pariſh Churches. What if we in retort ſhould ſay, that a *Jeſuit* is a *Popiſh Presbyterian*, and a *Presbyterian* is a *Proteſtant Jeſuit*? I think this would not be ſo abſurd, as your calling the Church of *England*-men *Popiſh Proteſtants*.

Country Churchwardens and Sidemen can prove out of the Book of Martyrs, and the Statute Law of *England*, that the men of the Church of *England* are the beſt and trueſt ſort of Proteſtants.

No ſooner did our *Church-wardens* and *Sideſmen* hear that you, Mr. *City*, called all them that went to Church, by the names of *Popiſhly Affected*, and *Proteſtants in Maſquerade*, but preſently they went and ſearched the *Book* of *Martyrs* that was chained to a Desk in the corner of the Church, and there they found, that the people that were *burnt*, and *hang'd*, and *executed* in the bloody Reign of Queen *Mary*, were thoſe that firſt *modell'd* and *compiled* our Proteſtant Religion in the days of *Edward* the Sixth, or which profeſſed and practiſed the outward Form of it in their Publick Churches or private Families.

Nay one of our *Sideſmen*, a *parlous* fellow at the Statute Book, hath often told our Pariſhioners, that Queen *Elizabeth*, King *James*, and King *Charles* were *Proteſtants*, and that in their Reigns the ſtrongeſt and beſt *Laws* againſt Popery, and for the Eſtabliſhment and Preſervation of the true Proteſtant *Religion* were made by ſuch men, that went conſtantly to our *Pariſh Churches*, to worſhip God in the ſame manner that we do in our *Town*.

And were theſe men then, both *good*, and *true*, and *honeſt* Proteſtants, and now muſt we be call'd *Popiſhly Affected*, and *Proteſtants in Maſquerade*, becauſe we worſhip God after their Example, and according to the Laws which they made? A *Peaſcod* on theſe villanous *Nicknames*; for you could not have done a greater *injury* to your ſelves, nor a greater *kindneſs* to the Popiſh Plot, than by vilifying that Church which the Papiſt *hates*, and would rejoice to ſee *ruined*.

Advice to leave off Nicknames.

Come, *come*, leave your madneſs and fooling, and learn to be ſober and wiſe: for a *Gentry man* in our *Town* hath often ſaid, that they are the true *Engliſh* Proteſtants, who profeſs and practiſe that Proteſtant Religion which was eſtabliſhed by Law in the time of Queen *Elizabeth*, King *James*, and King *Charles*.

Or elſe your Sheriffs Elect are Proteſtants in Maſquerade and Popiſhly affected.

And if it be *true* which we hear, that your *Sheriffs Elect* have lately been at one of your Pariſh Churches, to hear *Common-Prayer*, and receive the *Sacrament* according to the Church of *England*: then by your leave, Mr. *City*, and according to your own Argument, you have choſen two Sheriffs that are *Popiſhly Affected*, and *Proteſtants in Maſquerade*.

Well, Sir, If you have a mind to weaken the *Intereſt* of Proteſtantiſm in cutting

cutting off from you the beſt and greateſt part of the Nation by ſuch *ſcandalous Characters*, I am afraid you will afterwards treat them again with *blows* and *bloody Perſecution*.

But if you have a longing after a *Holy War*, to fight the *Lords Battel*, Pray keep your Armies within your Lines of *Excommunication*, as we call them. You have a *Magazine* of Arms, and a *Bank* of Money within your ſelf. And therefore if you have a mind to fight, Draw your *Parties* out every morning to *Mile-End-Green*, *Moorfields*, or *Iſlington*; there let them *combat* all day, and at night receive them that come off *alive* into your own *quarters*: But be ſure you march not one foot out of the Lines of *Excommunication*.

Where is the moſt proper place to manage a rebellious War.

For ſhould you come once more into our Parts with your *Eſſex*-Garters, *Orange* coloured Scarfs, with great *Gold Fringe* at the end of them, you are like to have cold *Entertainment*, and no *Lodging*: for now we have no *Cittadels*, no *Caſtles*, no *Forts*, nor any *Remains* of a *Town* or *City-Wall* to ſhelter your ſelves ſo much as from a ſhower of *Rain*. And as for Mony, alack, we have not enough by a great deal to pay our *Landlords*. And as for quartering you in our *Villages*, *Inns*, or *Alehouſes*, our laſt prudent *Parliament* hath by a Law ſecured us againſt you.

The Country unfit to entertain a rebellious Army.

Nay our very *women* are grown ſtark mad to hear that there is any cauſe to fear another *Rebellion*, becauſe that they know upon experience that they ſhall all then be rifled of their *Plate*, *Pewter* and *Braſs*, their Pigſties and Henroofts robb'd, and they and their Daughters *raviſht*. And as for our younger ſort, they are reſolved never to part with their *Bodkins*, *Thimbles* and *ſilver Spoons*, becauſe their Sweet-hearts made them ſwear at the giving of them, that they would never more lend ſuch things upon *Publick Faith*.

The Country unwilling.

And as for our *Landlords*, though they hate Popery as much as your Worſhip, Mr. *City*, yet they cannot endure to think of rooting it out of *England* by an *Army*; becauſe they know that their own houſes then, will at one time or another be expoſed to *Plunder*, their Horſes ſtole out of Field or Stables, their Coffers broke open, Rents run all away into *Taxes*, and they and their Children be ſent to *beg*, or ſerve as *Slaves* to thoſe that will pity them ſo much, as to give them Bread and Water.

The Country unable to maintain another Civil War.

And I have heard three or four of our *Gentry Folk* that wear *Velvet Coats* on *Chriſtmas* and *Eaſter*-Day, *ſay*, that if ever an Army of threeſcore thouſand men get into the heart of our *Kingdom*, they may eaſily *conquer* it, and when it is once conquered, they may make all the People their *Tenants*: For where *Power* is, there is *Right* and *Poſſeſſion*; ſaith that Varlet *Hobbes*, And then the Stile of our *Petitions* will be, **May it pleaſe your Majeſty, our Sovereign Lord the Army:**

Have a care of making an Army our Sovereign Lord and Tyrant.

Nor will your Worſhip, Mr. *City*, fare any better, for you ſhall be continually *bridled* and *ſadled* as well as *chain'd*. Then no *Counters*, *Newgate*, *Ludgate*, or *Kings-Bench* will be allowed, for as faſt as men become *malefactors* or run in *debt*, or *break*, they will preſently take *refuge* under the wings of the *Army*, and live upon *Pay* and *Plunder*. Nay, the very *Apprentices*, if they do not like their *Maſters*, will preſently run to the *Army*, and be dubb'd *Freemen*.

The City utterly undone if they ſet up an Army.

Whatever may be the cauſe of your *Heats* and *Diviſions*, we are ſure, that none amongſt us *clamor* and *rail* againſt the preſent Government, but the *diſguſted*, *diſcontented*, and *indigent* perſons: For we obſerved in our Towns, that the moſt active and violent men for *Petitioning*, were quondam *Committee-Men*, and *Sequeſtrators*, and thoſe that were concerned in *Crown* and *Church-Lands*, and thoſe that were *decaying* in their Trades; for men that have *good Eſtates*, and thrive in their *Callings*, will never be ſo *mad* and *fooliſh* to put Government into Confuſion and War, ſince *they* only of all men muſt run the hazard of *loſing* all they have.

None diſcontented at the preſent Government, but old Committee men, Sequeſtrators, Purchaſers of Crown and Church Lands, and Bankrupts.

For

o War with-
at Money,
nd no Money
ithout insuf-
erable Taxes.

For as the contesting between parties for *Superiority* in a Nation will at last come to blows and fighting, so such a sort of Controversie cannot be maintain'd without *Money*. And as our late *unnatural War* begat such Taxes and Impositions, as *England* never heard of before, so another like War will revive the same, or put some men upon inventing others far more *grievous* and *intolerable*.

Folly to
change a good
condition for
a bad one.

And then how like *fools* shall we all look one upon another, when we have changed our *King* and *civil Government*, which secures our Rights, Liberties, Properties and Priviledges, for a *Sovereign Lord the Army*, and the tyranny of the Sword, which alwayes plunders a People of these *Riches*, and oppresses them with *slavery* and *bondage*.

The City per-
haps doth not
intend Tu-
mult and Re-
bellion.

Perhaps Mr. *City*, you are not now designing such a *thing* as this, and without a pair of *Spectacles* you cannot see those that are: But if it should come to pass (which God forbid) then you will say I am a *Conjurer*, and cry, *A vow to God, who would a thought it.*

But the Pa-
pists will
drive them to
it, unless
speedily and
prudently
prevented.

No doubt, but very good and honest men were concern'd in those unhappy affairs of *Vorty*, and *Vorty one*; and had no other inteniton at first, but to remove or redress some grievances which they then said were in Church and State: Yet when these good men went to *Reformation*, how soon were they carried off from the Jack they aimed at, by an *undiscernable* byas that was in the *Bowl*, and *unexpected rub* in the way. And then by the wiles and stratagems of *Jesuited Polititians*, how strangely were they carried to all manner of *extravagancies*; insomuch that they found they could not be safe, without being the monsters of Wickedness and Villany? And the same restless Spirits, and *Machiavillian Brains* are now at work, and unless there be a very *speedy*, *prudent* and *vigilant* care taken to cool and moderate the furious temper and *fiery zeal of some* that are call'd *Protestants*, I dare foretell, you will have another *civil War*, and far more *bloody* than the former.

Lay aside
Parties and
Factions.

It's no matter who are *Presbyterians*, or *Independents*, or *Anabaptists*, so they be for the Protestant Religion and *Interest*: And as long as they are for that, the Church of *England-men* heartily joyn with them. But if these several persuasions (to gratifie the Papists, and further their designs) shall persist to vilifie the Church of *England-men*, by saying they are *Popishly affected*, or *Protestants in Masquerade*; Then the Church of *England-men* have nothing else to do, but to commit their *Cause* to God, and to *acquiesce* in his Providence, with this Declaration to the World: That *Fire* and *Fagot* will never make them *Papists*; and Sequestration, Imprisonment and Death will never force them to be Fanaticks and Rebells.

The Church
of *England-
men* are reso-
ved neither to
be Papists nor
Rebels.

Thus wishing you all *Peace* and *Prosperity*, and to keep out of the *need* of another Act of *Indempnity*,

I rest your Worships

true and hearty lover

and humble servant

Honest Country.

Aug: 5: 1680